Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the above-identified application.

Listing of Claims

1.   (Currently Amended) A method comprising:

creating a first storage object, wherein creating the first storage object comprises creating a first storage object description, wherein the first storage object description comprises data that relates the first storage object to first underlying storage objects or to first physical memory regions;

creating a second storage object as a virtual snapshot copy of the first storage object, wherein creating the second storage object comprises creating a second storage object description, wherein the second storage object description comprises data identifying the second storage object as a snapshot copy of the first ~~logical volume~~ storage object;

adding to the first storage object description data identifying the second storage object as a snapshot copy of the first storage object;

transmitting the first ~~volume~~ storage object description to a first computer system, and;

transmitting the second ~~volume~~ storage object description to a second computer system.

2.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1 further comprising transmitting the first storage object description to the second computer system.

3.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1 further comprising transmitting the second storage object description to the first computer system.

4.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1 wherein the second storage object description comprises information relating the second storage object to second underlying storage objects or second physical memory regions.

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5.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1 further comprising:

modifying the first storage description, and;

transmitting the modified first storage description to the first and second computer
        systems.

6.   (Currently Amended) A method comprising:

creating a second storage object, wherein creating the second storage object is created as
        a virtual <u>snapshot</u> copy of a first storage object, wherein creating the second
        storage object comprises creating a description of the second storage object;

adding data to a description for the first storage object to indicate that the first storage
        object is related to the second storage object.

7.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 6 further comprising:

transmitting the first storage object description to a first computer system, and;

transmitting the second storage object description to a second computer system.

8.   (Currently Amended) The method of claim 6 wherein the data added to the first storage
object description indicates that the second storage object is a <u>snapshot</u> copy to the first storage
object.

9.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 7 wherein the first storage object
description is transmitted to the first computer system after the data is added to the first storage
object description.

10.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 6 wherein the second storage object
description comprises data that relates the second storage object to second underlying storage
objects.

11.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 7 further comprising:

transmitting the first storage object description to the second computer system after the

data is added to the first storage object description to indicate that the first storage

object is related to the second storage object;

transmitting the second storage object description to the first computer system.

12.   (Currently Amended) A memory medium comprising instructions executable by a

computer system, wherein the computer system implements a method in response to executing

the instructions, the method comprising:

creating a first storage object, wherein creating the first storage object comprises creating

a first storage object description, wherein the first storage object description

comprises data that relates the first storage object to first underlying storage

objects or to first physical memory regions;

creating a second storage object as a virtual snapshot copy of the first storage object,

wherein creating the second storage object comprises creating a second storage

object description, wherein the second storage object description comprises data

identifying the second storage object as a snapshot copy of the first ~~logical~~

~~volume~~ data object;

adding to the first storage object description data identifying the second storage object as

a snapshot copy of the first storage object;

transmitting the first ~~volume~~ storage object description to a first computer system, and;

transmitting the second ~~volume~~ storage object description to a second computer system.

13.   (Previously Presented) The memory medium of claim 12 wherein the method further

comprises transmitting the first storage object description to the second computer system.

14.   (Previously Presented) The memory medium of claim 12 wherein the method further

comprises transmitting the second storage object description to the first computer system.

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15.   (Previously Presented) The memory medium of claim 12 wherein the second storage object description comprises information relating the second storage object to second underlying storage objects or second physical memory regions.

16.   (Previously Presented) The memory medium of claim 12 wherein the method further comprises:

modifying the first storage description, and;

transmitting the modified first storage description to the first and second computer
        systems.

17.   (Currently Amended) A memory medium comprising instructions executable by a computer system, wherein the computer system implements a method in response to executing the instructions, the method comprising:

creating a second storage object, wherein creating the second storage object is created as
        a virtual snapshot copy of a first storage object, wherein creating the second
        storage object comprises creating a description of the second storage object;

adding data to a description for the first storage object to indicate that the first storage
        object is related to the second storage object.

18.   (Previously Presented) The memory medium of claim 17 wherein the method further comprises:

transmitting the first storage object description to a first computer system, and;

transmitting the second storage object description to a second computer system.

19.   (Currently Amended) The memory medium of claim 17 wherein the data added to the first storage object description indicates that the second storage object is a snapshot copy to the first storage object.

20.   (Previously Presented) The memory medium of claim 18 wherein the first storage object description is transmitted to the first computer system after the data is added to the first storage object description.

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21.   (Previously Presented) The memory medium of claim 17 wherein the second storage object description comprises data that relates the second storage object to second underlying storage objects.

22.   (Previously Presented) The memory medium of claim 18 wherein the method further comprises:

      transmitting the first storage object description to the second computer system after the data is added to the first storage object description to indicate that the first storage object is related to the second storage object;

      transmitting the second storage object description to the first computer system.

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